APPENDIX.

SECTION 302 (d) OF THE REVENUE ACT OF 1926 (44 STAT. 71), AS AMENDED BY THE REVENUE ACT OF MAY 10, 1934 (48 STAT. 752).

"Section 302. The value of the gross estate of the decedent shall be determined by including the value at the time of his death of all property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, wherever situated, except real property situated outside the United States—

"(a) * * *

"(b) * * *

"(c) * * *

"(d)(1) To the extent of any interest therein of which the decedent has at any time made a transfer, by trust or otherwise, where the enjoyment thereof was subject at the date of his death to any change through the exercise of a power, either by the decedent alone or in conjunction with any person, to alter, amend, or revoke, or where the decedent relinquished any such power in contemplation of his death, except in case of a bona fide sale for an adequate and full consideration in money or money's worth.

"(2) For the purposes of this subdivision the power to alter, amend, or revoke shall be considered to exist on the date of the decedent's death even though the exercise of the power is subject to a precedent giving of notice or even though the alteration, amendment, or revocation takes effect only on the expiration of a stated period after the exercise of the power, whether or not on or before the date of the decedent's death notice has been given or the power has been exercised. In such

cases proper adjustment shall be made representing the interests which would have been excluded from the power if the decedent had lived, and for such purpose if the notice has not been given or the power has not been exercised on or before the date of his death, such notice shall be considered to have been given, or the power exercised, on the date of his death."

[Sub-section (2) was added by the Revenue Act of May 10, 1934. The provisions of Sub-section (1) were contained in the Act of 1926 before the Amendment].

REGULATIONS 79

Relating To

FEDERAL GIFT TAX

Article 3, as amended by T. D. 5010, approved September 19, 1940 [1941 C. C. H. Inheritance, Estate, and Gift Tax Service, Sec. 3936]. The paragraphs in italics were added by the amendment embodied in T. D. 5010 [Internal Revenue Bulletin, Sept. 30, 1940, p. 13]:

"Art. 3. Cessation of donor's dominion and control. —The tax is not imposed upon the receipt of the property by the donee, nor is it necessarily determined by the measure of enrichment resulting to the donee from the transfer, nor is it conditioned upon ability to identify the donee at the time of the transfer. On the contrary, the tax is a primary and personal liability of the donor, is an excise upon his act of making the transfer, is measured by the value of the property passing from the donor, and attaches regardless of the fact that the identity of the donee may not then be known or ascertainable.

"As to any property, or part thereof or interest therein, of which the donor has so parted with dominion

and control as to leave in him no power to change the disposition thereof, whether for his own benefit or for the benefit of another, the gift is complete. But if upon a transfer of property (whether in trust or otherwise) the donor reserves any power over the disposition thereof, the gift may be wholly incomplete, or may be partially complete and partially incomplete, depending upon all the facts in the particular case. Accordingly, in every case of a transfer of property subject to a reserved power, the terms of the power must be examined and their scope determined.

"A gift is incomplete in every instance where a donor reserves the power to revest the beneficial title to the property in himself. A gift is also incomplete where and to the extent that a reserved power gives the donor the right to name new beneficiaries or to change the interests of the beneficiaries as between themselves. Thus, the transfer of an estate for life where, by an exercise of the power, the estate may be terminated or cut down to one of less value, and without restriction upon the extent to which the estate may be so cut down, constitutes an incomplete gift. Modifying the example by treating the power as confined to the right to cut down the estate for life to one for a term of five years, the certainty of an estate for not less than that term results in a gift to that extent complete.

"A gift shall not be considered incomplete, however, merely because the donor reserves the power to change the manner or time of enjoyment thereof. Thus, the creation of a trust the income of which is to be paid annually to the donee for a period of years, the corpus being distributable to him at the end of the period, and the power reserved by the donor being limited to a right to require that, instead of the income being so payable, it should be accumulated and distributed with the cor-

pus to such donee at the termination of the period, constitutes a completed gift.

"A donor shall be considered as himself having the power where it is exercisable by him in conjunction with any person not having a substantial adverse interest in the disposition of the transferred property or the income therefrom. A trustee, as such, is not a person having an adverse interest in the disposition of the trust property or its income.

"The relinquishment or termination of a power to change the disposition of the transferred property, occurring otherwise than by the death of the donor (the statute being confined to transfers by living donors), is regarded as the event which completes the gift and causes the tax to apply. The receipt of income or of other enjoyment of the transferred property by the transferee or by the beneficiary (other than by the donor himself) during the interim between the making of the transfer and the relinquishment or termination of the power operates to free such income or other enjoyment from the power, and constitutes a gift of such income or of such other enjoyment taxable as of the calendar year of its receipt.

"If the donor contends that the power is of such nature as to render the gift incomplete, and hence not subject to the tax as of the calendar year of the initial transfer, the transaction shall be disclosed in the return and evidence showing all relevant facts, including a copy of the instrument of transfer, should be submitted.

"If for any calendar year prior to the calendar year 1939 a transfer has been subjected to payment of the tax despite the fact that the donor retained a power to name new beneficiaries or to change the interests of the beneficiaries as between themselves, and if the tax for such calendar year has been finally determined on such basis,

and for all gift tax purposes such transfer has been treated, for such calendar year and each subsequent calendar year, as subject to the tax, and the donor agrees, in a closing agreement executed under the provisions of section 3760, that he will continue so to treat such transfer, then the relinquishment or termination of the power so retained by the donor shall not be treated as a gift subject to the tax."